

I am very opposed to the deployment of "BPL" -- broadband over power lines. The reason for my opposition is the severe interference that BPL can/does produce, as demonstrated in the limited amount of tests that have already gone on in the US and during far more extensive tests done abroad.

Whether or not the FCC is aware of it, there have been a number of BPL trials in other countries -- most notably, Japan, the Netherlands, Austria, and the UK. All such BPL trials have resulted in totally unacceptable interference to short-wave radio services in the High Frequency (HF) range. These services included emergency-communication networks, as well as airline and armed-forces systems.

The FCC has rather disingenuously stated that the technology employed in these foreign trials is not up to the newest technology promised by US proponents of BPL. As a private citizen, I consider this to be an incredibly arrogant attitude to display. Certainly the technological infrastructure and technical competence of these countries should not be dismissed lightly, yet the FCC seems to be doing so in "pooh-poohing" their very real, very negative experiences with BPL.

In a time when emergency and homeland protection communications using the HF radio spectrum is a valuable, nay indispensable, resource, we should not rush headlong into deploying unproven technology that has the unfortunate potential of polluting this spectrum beyond the point where it can be used by anyone, even BPL.